to set up Environmental Courts on regional basis with one professional Judge and two experts drawn from the Ecological Sciences Research Group keeping in view the nature of the cases and the expertise required for its adjudication. This suggestion which needs careful study is under examination.

Regional imbalances

1253. SHRI S. W. DHABE:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that due to state level planning and inadequate allocation of funds by the Planning Commission regional economic imbalances are increasing in every state;

(b) if so, what efforts are being made by the Planning Commission for dispersal of industry and location of public sector units in backward regions;

(c) whether any study has been made of the effect of regional imbalances on the balanced economy development of the State;

(d) whether there is any proposal to change the pattern and mode of planning to remove the regional imbalances; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) it is not true that regional imbalances have arisen because of State level planning and inadequate allocation of funds. Regional imbalances arise from various reasons such as, differences in resource endowments, disparities in the availability of infrastructural facilities, institutional factors, etc. Successive Five Year Plans have sought to remove the causes of regional imbalances.

(b) Several measures have been taken to promote the industrial development of backward regions. The industrially backward areas have been identified in the light of certain criteria for the purposes of providing special facilities for such areas through various schemes, such as the Central Investment Subsidy Scheme, Transport Subsidy Scheme and the Concessional Finance Scheme. Moreover, subject to techno-economic considerations, claims of comparatively backward industrial areas are kept in view in locating Central Projects.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) The Seventh Plan lays emphasis on decentralisation of planning as an instrument of promoting balanced regional development. The Planning Commission had set up a Working Group on District Planning in September, 1982. In its report submitted in May, 1984, the Working Group has recommended a gradual step-by-step approach towards this goal. The Seventh Plan envisages decentralisation of the Planning process on the lines suggested by the Working Group.

***Vacant Posts of Specialists in the* AIR Force Central Medical Establishment**

1254. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:
SHRI S. W. DHABE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Air Force Central Medical Establishment, New Delhi is the only competent authority to certify the flying fitness of pilots for Air Force, Air India, Indian Airlines and civil and commercial services;

(b) if so, what is the present number of specialist doctors in the establishment and what is the field of their specialisation; and

(c) whether some posts of specialists are lying vacant for more than six months, if so, what steps are being taken to fill up these posts, especially those of the heart specialists?